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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/941,832	08/30/2001	Bryan Yunker	PICO-0034-1	6875
22506	7590	05/18/2004	EXAMINER	
JAGTIANI + GUTTAG 10363-A DEMOCRACY LANE FAIRFAX, VA 22030			NASRI, JAVAID H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/941,832	YUNKER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Javaid Nasri	2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12,21-32 and 34-58 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-12,21-28 and 34-57 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-7,29-32 and 58 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 August 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claim 1-4, 7, 29-32 and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Anderson et al (6,478,472, cited in previous office action).
Anderson et al discloses more than four adjacent optical receptacles (110, see figure 1, note 110 is an optical receptacle which receives 50) of a multi-transceiver assembly (note: transceiver stands for device which transmit/receive signals, these devices shown in figure 1 do transmit/receive optical signals) and a unitary shared wall (160) extending in a distal and/or proximal direction between the adjacent optical receptacles, connecting means, mounting means, unibody construction,

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson et al.

Anderson et al discloses all the limitations of claim 1 as shown above, Anderson et al also discloses the shared wall comprise a unitary shared wall.

However, Anderson et al does not disclose:

a) the shared wall has a thickness of 0.001 inch to 0.15 inch. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice for Anderson et al to have the shared wall has a thickness of 0.001 inch to 0.15 inch, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the size of a component. A change in size or shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Rose*, 105 USPQ 237 (CCPA 1955).

Note: According to the specification page 25, lines 11 and 12, a thickness of 0.001 inch to 0.15 inch is a **matter of preferences** by the applicant.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed on 3/29/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

- a) Regarding applicant's comment that *Anderson et al does not describe or show an optical receptacle for use with a transceiver, much less two or more optical receptacles for use with a multi-transceiver assembly*, it should be noted that concept of a transceiver is a device which transmit/receive signal, therefore Anderson et al does discloses the limitation. It should be also noted that the word "use" is removed from the claim.
- b) Regarding applicant's comment that *Anderson et al rib (160) is not a part of any optical receptacle*, it should be noted that as explained in the rejection the rib 160 is a part of optical receptacles 110 and 110 is optical receptacle as explained in the rejection above.
- c) Regarding applicant's comment that *Anderson et al does not show unibody construction*, it should be noted that Anderson et al do show unibody construction (100, made from single piece of material) with optical receptacles (110) as explained above.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:

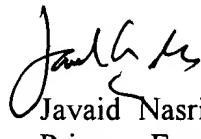
**Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

For additional information regarding this new address, which was effective May 1, 2003, see
Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332
(*March 25, 2003*).

Or faxed to: 703-308-7722 or 308-7724 (informal or draft communications should be clearly labeled
“PROPOSED” or “DRAFT”)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

**Crystal Plaza 4, Fourth Floor (receptionist)
2201 South Clark Place, Arlington, Virginia**


Javaid Nasri
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

JN
jhn
May 13, 2004